

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP01/02924

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

Int.Cl<sup>7</sup> H01L 21/66Int.Cl<sup>7</sup> G01R 1/073

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

Int.Cl<sup>7</sup> H01L 21/66Int.Cl<sup>7</sup> G01R 1/073Int.Cl<sup>7</sup> G01R 31/26

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1964-1996 Toroku Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1994-1998

Kokai Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1971-1996 Jitsuyo Shinan Toroku Koho 1996-2001

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X Y	JP, 63-84946, U (NEC Kansai, Ltd.), 03 June, 1988 (03.06.88), page 6, line 18 to page 9, line 10 (Family: none)	1, 4, 10 3, 8, 12-16
A	JP, 10-223704, A (Tokyo Electron Limited), 21 June, 1998 (21.06.98), Par. Nos. 13 to 16 (Family: none)	6, 7
Y	US, 5825192, A (Tokyo Electron LTD.), 20 October, 1998 (20.10.98), Column 5, line 43 to Column 7, line 43 & JP, 9-36188, A Par. Nos. 26 to 36	3, 8
Y	JP, 62-11243, A (Hitachi Electron Eng. Co., Ltd.), 20 January, 1987 (20.01.87), page 3, upper left column, line 17 to upper right column, line 6 (Family: none)	12-14
Y	US, 6130543, A (Tokyo Electron LTD.), 10 October, 2000 (10.10.00), Column 7, line 59 to Column 8, line 11	15, 16

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.
 ☐ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:	"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date	"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"&" document member of the same patent family
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	

Date of the actual completion of the international search  
24 April, 2001 (24.04.01)Date of mailing of the international search report  
15 May, 2001 (15.05.01)Name and mailing address of the ISA/  
Japanese Patent Office

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C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	& JP, 10-256323, A Par. No. 16  JP, 63-57745, U (NEC Corporation), 18 April, 1988 (18.04.88), page 3, line 9 to page 5, line 7; Fig.1 (Family: none)	1-20